

BRING GREATER ADMINISTRATIVE FLEXIBILITY TO HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY

HON. JAN MEYERS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to bring greater administrative flexibility to Haskell Indian Nations University located in Lawrence, KS.

Haskell has been educating native Americans since 1884. One of only two institutes of its kind in the United States, any person of native American descent can attend Haskell tuition-free in fulfillment of treaty obligations. Since its inception, Haskell has grown into a cherished educational institution in the native American community and a respected neighbor in Lawrence, KS.

Under the leadership of President Bob Martin, Haskell University has begun a far-sighted transformation into a 4 year university specializing in training elementary and secondary education teachers, and environmental science and conservation programs. For the past 3 years, the first group of education baccalaureate students have been studying at Haskell and will graduate this spring.

However, in order to continue its transformation, Haskell needs the autonomy and authority to hire and retain faculty-rank teachers. That is what this bill does. Local control and authority has already been granted to all tribally-controlled community colleges. While I realize that the time before this Congress does not permit a thorough hearing of this bill, I want to alert my colleagues to both the need and importance of the legislation.

TRIBUTE TO FINANCIAL WOMEN INTERNATIONAL

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the contributions of women to the financial services industry and to honor an organization that makes this success possible: Financial Women International.

Women have made a major impact in the realm of financial services, leading to the industry's growth and flourishing. For 75 years, Financial Women International has advanced these goals by helping women in the financial services industry to expand their personal and professional capabilities.

When the group was founded in 1921, it claimed 59 members who held high positions in their banks. Today, Financial Women International counts more than 10,000 members from all 50 States and several foreign countries. These individuals come from all facets of the rapidly expanding world of financial services.

Financial Women International's impressive record stems from its emphasis on education. The group appreciates the importance of continual learning. For this reason, it offers seminars and many other programs that teach women in the financial services industry the skills they need to become and remain competitive.

In addition, Financial Women International advances the interests of working women by promoting pay equity and through its contributions to the efforts of the Glass Ceiling Commission.

I am pleased to honor Financial Women International. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting this organization and the many hard-working women of the financial services industry.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE TOM BEVILL AND THE HONORABLE GLEN BROWDER

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues in acknowledging the contribution of my good friend, TOM BEVILL, our esteemed colleague has provided such great leadership as chairman of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee and in this Congress as our distinguished ranking member. He will always be "Mr. Chairman."

Mr. TOM BEVILL was elected to this body more than 30 years ago and has proudly represented his constituents in Alabama. The Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway is a monument to Chairman BEVILL's work. This barge canal stretches from North Alabama to the Gulf of Mexico and a lock and dam on the canal bear the chairman's name. He has fought Presidents in both parties to secure important development projects and has stood with Members from both sides of the aisle to work to move this country toward the 21st century.

I am proud to have served with TOM. He is an example for us all. TOM has always advanced a bipartisan agenda, and looked at the merits of water projects regardless of party. As chairman of the Energy and Water Subcommittee, Congressman BEVILL boasted that he had never brought a bill to the floor without the full consent and support of then ranking member Myers. I am proud to see that his example has extended to this Congress, and I commend him and the example he has set. His bipartisan spirit has created a model for committee efficiency and has crated lasting water projects as its legacy.

Chairman BEVILL has also been a strong advocate of important water projects in the San Francisco Bay area. His strong support of the San Francisco Bay has provided funds for dredging, erosion control programs and general maintenance. He has supported the Sacramento River Winter-Run Chinook Salmon Program and provided funds for a long-term planning strategy for the San Francisco Bay. His efforts resulted in the important San Francisco breakwater that protects the city shoreline from the ravages of storms. His support will long be remembered by many in San Francisco.

The House of Representatives will miss Chairman BEVILL. He is a friend, an example and a leader to all of us. I wish him well in his retirement. He will be missed but always remembered for his extraordinary leadership in this House.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILD LABOR FREE CONSUMER INFORMATION ACT OF 1996

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be able to introduce today new legislation to aid consumers wanting to avoid products made with abusive and exploitative child labor. The measure, called the Child Labor Free Consumer Information Act of 1996, encourages apparel and sporting good companies to voluntarily adopt a "child labor free" label on their products or packaging.

Over 60 Members of the House have joined me in introducing this important piece of legislation that I wrote with my good friend Senator TOM HARKIN of Iowa, who has been a relentless fighter for children and for human rights.

Our bill would create the broadest anti-child labor label in today's market. It builds on successful efforts to use labels to inform consumers of socially responsible actions by manufacturers and retailers. The Rugmark label, for example, guarantees that certain hand-knotted Asian rugs were not made by exploited children. And the Green Seal and other environmental labels, such as the Dolphin Safe logo on cans of tuna fish and the European "E" label, provide important information to consumers concerned about environmental protection.

On most products today there is a world of information. You can know if a shirt was made in the United States or abroad, made with union labor, made of cotton or synthetics, and how to care for it. Nowhere, however, will you see reference to any labor protections adhered to in the manufacture. And yet, this is an important piece of information to consumers that could influence their purchasing decisions. It is important to workers, and it is important to the children that are being exploited and abused in the workplace because of insufficient pressure on countries and businesses to put these children in school rather than to work.

Mr. Speaker, the bottom line is that consumers want to avoid products made in sweatshops or by child labor, but they have no way of knowing which products to avoid. Our legislation asks companies to "put your money where your mouth is"—if your product is free of child labor, tell the consumer right on the label.

Numerous polls and surveys show consumers want information about socially responsible business practices. One study, by Marymount University in Virginia, found that three out of four Americans would boycott a store if they knew it sold goods made in sweatshops.

Regrettably, products made with abusive and exploitative child labor and in sweatshops are prevalent. The International Labor Organization estimates there are several hundred million children making goods, many of which are sold in U.S. markets.

Attention to this issue was heightened this year after it was disclosed at a hearing that I chaired by the Democratic Policy Committee that celebrity product lines, such as the Kathie Lee Gifford clothes sold at Wal-Mart stores, were made in part by underage youth and at sweatshops. Life magazine added to the attention by later reporting that most soccer